[Sri C. Subramaniam] [4th March 1955

" Sir, with reference to various other matters, such as the industrial development of the State, the suggestion that we must have some heavy industries located in this State and all that, nobody will disagree with the view that we must try to see that some of the heavy industries are located in the southern part of the country. In this connexion I would like to tell hon. Members that the Neiveli Project holds out very great prospects for us. Even in respect of this Project, criticisms have been made that the Centre is taking it over. Sir, it is not a question of the Centre taking it over or the State running it. After all, they cannot take away the coal from that area. That is not the point. It is a question of finding out the necessary capital for the purpose of exploiting it. It will not be possible for the State Government to find 60 crores of rupees. It will be very difficult to raise that sum. We cannot afford to take the risk in this matter. That is why we asked the Central Government to come in and help us. They have agreed to come in. I may take this opportunity to assure hon. Members that if at any stage we are prepared to take it over, it will be handed over to us at book value provided we are also prepared to take the liability involved in it.

6-30 p.m. " Therefore, there is no question of the Centre taking it away. After all, the Centre is not an alien body. As some hon. Member also said here, it is our own Government. ' Neiveli ' will be worked and exploited to the best advantage of the entire South India. When it starts working, many other industries are bound to spring up. Apart from it, we are also trying to locate a heavy chemical industry, a soda ash plant and sugarcane factories here, so that we may not lag behind other States industrially.

" Sir, I do not think I need weary the House with further details. Many of the points made in this House were very ably met by my senior Colleagues who were pleased to intervene in the debate. They have made my task lighter and easier in answering the various points raised by hon. Members. I am really grateful to the various hon. Members who made a very useful contribution to the debate. I may assure you, Sir, and the House that I have been greatly benefited by it and I shall try my best to see that the various points raised by them are properly examined and if found practicable are duly implemented. I thank you, Sir, for having given me this opportunity to speak and I also thank the House for having given me a patient hearing." (Cheers.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN :—" I adjourn the House to meet at 3 p.m. on Thursday, the 17th March 1955."

The House then adjourned to meet at 3 p.m. on Thursday, the 17th March 1955.

IV.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

Statement showing the Resolutions passed by the House Committee during the fifth, sixth and seventh Sessions of the Madras Legislative Council under the Constitution of India and the action taken thereon.